



New Registration Permits Available from DNR

In August, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Air Management Program made new Registration Operating Permits (ROPs) available. A ROP is a standardized operation permit for facilities with low actual emissions. The ROP establishes a cap on a facility's allowable emissions and specifies the methods that must be used to demonstrate compliance. It is available for most facilities that have emissions below 25% of a major source threshold (i.e., 25 tons per year of pollutants like particulate matter, volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide).

Permit holders can expect several benefits from the new program. ROPs contain predictable language and supply the monitoring and record keeping requirements. ROPs also give facilities the flexibility to modify or add equipment without applying for a construction permit, as long as emissions stay below the caps

and the changes can meet applicable requirements. In addition, the rapid turnaround time—permit applications will be reviewed within 15 days—should allow companies to proceed quickly. This type of permit will not expire.

The ROP was officially issued on August 15, 2006, and the DNR is now accepting applications for coverage under the ROP on its new web-based application system. For more detailed information, visit the Registration Permit website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/air/apii/regpermits.html>, and see the Registration Permit fact sheet at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/air/apii/documents/APIIFactSheet1update.pdf>.

The ROP, along with the Air Permits Tracking System (see article on Page 3), are both results of DNR's Air Permit Improvement Initiative. Public, industry, and environmental groups all worked with DNR to develop these tools. ❖

SBCAAP Announces Events for Small Businesses

FET's Federal Environmental Regulatory Overview Course

✓ Wednesdays, 6-9 pm,
from Nov. 1 to Jan 31, at
Green Bay MSD

✓ Thursdays, 6-9 pm,
from Nov. 2 to Feb. 1, at
Brookfield POTW
Register: www.fetinc.org

2006 National SBIR

Nov. 6-9, Milwaukee

Register:

www.SBIRworld.com/WI

Air Issues Updates, Co-sponsored by SBCAAP and FET Air Committee

January or February 2007

Watch our web site for
exact dates and
locations:

[commerce.wi.gov/bd/
bd-ca-events.html](http://commerce.wi.gov/bd/bd-ca-events.html)

Clear Waters Initiative is Latest Green Tier Charter

The Clear Waters Initiative, a Green Tier Charter signed earlier this year, brings regulatory agencies and the home building community together in an effort to reduce sediment runoff into Dane County streams, lakes and wetlands that results from home building activities. Clear Waters is a collaboration between DNR, Dane County, the cities of Madison and Sun Prairie, and Veridian Homes. The partnership will develop voluntary approaches at both the planning and

construction stages for more effective erosion control and storm water management at land development sites.

Green Tier helps environmentally responsible companies that go beyond minimal regulatory compliance achieve environmental and economic gains. Through collaborative contracts, the program adapts to the needs of individual companies and business communities.

(continued on page 2)

In This Issue...

Article	Page
ROPs	1
Green Tier	1
Haz Waste Manifest Changes	2
TRI Changes	2
DNR Conflict Resolution	3
Air Permit Tracking System	3
SBIR Conference	3
EPA Clean School Bus Grant	4

Green Tier in Wisconsin (cont from page 1)

Businesses benefit from regulatory streamlining, helping to offset the costs of innovative, environmentally sound activities.

Clear Waters is the third Charter agreement in Wisconsin's innovative Green Tier program. The WI Builders Association Development Council's Environmental Compliance Corporation for Development and Economic Vitality, Inc. (EccoDev) is working with DNR to combine healthy, sustainable environments with quality, affordable housing. EccoDev represents residential developers in Wisconsin, and participating members will control erosion from land developments and design building sites that minimize environmental impact.

CCP, Inc., representing the scrap metal recycling industry, signed the state's first Green Tier Charter. CCP's agreement is a practical, cooperative initiative to encourage development of environmental management systems for scrap metal recyclers, designed to improve waste handling and promote recycling from scrap processing activities.

For information about Green Tier, visit the web site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cea/environmental/index.htm>.



Green Tier Program Named Finalist for Major National Award

This year, Wisconsin's Green Tier program was one of 18 finalists for the prestigious Innovations in American Government Awards. The Innovations in American Government Awards is a program of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, administered in partnership with the Council for Excellence in Government.

The awards recognize uniquely smart, creative, and effective government strategies for tackling significant problems. "Each of the eighteen finalists are the best and brightest, and represent government's great capacity for creating positive change and achieving results," said Gowher Rizvi, Director of Harvard's Ash Institute.

This year, more than 1000 programs submitted applications to compete for seven Awards. ❖

Hazardous Waste Manifest Requirements Change

New federal regulations for hazardous waste manifests became effective on September 5, 2006. As part of these rules, changes have been made to the manifest form that must be used by generators, transporters and treatment and disposal facilities for all new shipments of hazardous waste.

The manifest has been standardized nationally, so the same form will be used in all jurisdictions. Additions to the manifest include space for emergency response information, unique shipment tracking numbers, and standardized process codes. The manifest also clarifies procedures for rejected hazardous waste, container residues, and international shipments.

The manifest form also contains a new option in the *offeror certification* section. A generator can now allow its transporter to sign as the offeror. However, the generator is still responsible for compliance with the regulations, including document preparation and filing requirements.

For a quick overview of the new form and its use, visit <http://www.pneac.org/hazwastemanifest/>. Or EPA's web site: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/gener/manifest/>. ❖

EPA's TRI Program Adopts NAICS Business Codes

Beginning July 1, 2007, facilities that do Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (TRI) reporting must identify their principal business activities using North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. This new requirement covers reports of releases and other waste management activities during 2006.

Identifying industrial codes is not new. In the past, businesses reported their activities using Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. The industries subject to reporting requirements have not changed. In the new rule, EPA simply identified the NAICS codes that are subject to TRI.

For information about TRI reporting, visit EPA's TRI web site at <http://www.epa.gov/tri>. For help converting from SIC to NAICS, see the information at <http://www.epa.gov/tri/tridata/naics/>. ❖

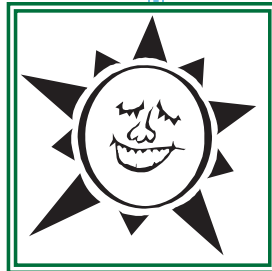
Hot Topics in DNR's Air Program

DNR Develops Conflict Resolution Process for Air Permits

The DNR Air Management Program now offers a new conflict resolution process to help resolve issues between facilities seeking air permits and department permit writers. This responds to concerns expressed by permit recipients about the need for ways to resolve differences between themselves and air permit staff, other than involving elected officials or taking legal action.

The informal conflict resolution process emphasizes good communication practices designed to prevent problems and misunderstandings from the start of the permit submittal and review process. In cases where differences of opinion still exist, the process also clearly outlines suggested steps for having the issue reviewed at other levels within DNR.

Using the informal conflict resolution process does not affect any rights to challenge, appeal, or contest permits or permit conditions as allowed under Wisconsin statutes. It is simply an informal approach that can help resolve concerns prior to permit issuance.



Information about the conflict resolution process is available online at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/air/permits.html>, under Resources, or from Rhonda O'Leary at 715-355-9474 or Rhonda.O'Leary@dnr.state.wi.us. ❖

DNR Unveils New Air Permits Tracking System

In August, DNR also rolled out its new Air Permits Tracking System, another product of the permit streamlining program. This new system provides public access to documents and important dates in the permit review process, including application receipts, public comment periods, and final decisions on permits.

The Tracking System provides powerful search capabilities that allow any individual user to easily query the records for the status of any air permits of interest. Users can input criteria like the date, location, facility name, and permit type into the Facility Permit Search. The system also allows users to search for particular milestones of interest.

You can read more about the new Permit Tracking System at <http://dnr.wi.gov/cias/apstracking/>. ❖

National SBIR Conference Comes to Wisconsin

If you are an innovative business developing environmental or other technologies, you will want to attend the 2006 Fall National Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Conference, scheduled for November 6-9 at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center.

This is a tremendous opportunity for every business that can benefit from part of the \$2+ billion in federal SBIR grants and contracts. Through SBIR, 11 federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency, provide funding for R&D projects conducted by small businesses (500 or fewer employees) that address national priorities.

The conference, "Spreading the Wings of Opportunity," will teach registrants how to effectively participate in the SBIR program. The agenda includes sessions on proposal strategy, grant management, intellectual property issues, and financing and technology commercialization topics. SBIR program managers from all participating agencies will also be available for one-on-one meetings with companies.

For program and registration details, visit the National SBIR Conference web site at www.SBIRworld.com/WI. ❖

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Small Business Clean Air Advisor is published by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, Mary P. Burke, Secretary. To obtain free copies or to be placed on the mailing list, contact:

SBCAAP

201 W. Washington Ave,
P.O. Box 7970
Madison, WI 53707
Phone: 608/264-6153
Fax: 608/264-6151
Email: CleanAir@
commerce.state.wi.us

Visit us at:
commerce.wi.gov/sbcaap



Serving Small Businesses and
the Environment in Wisconsin

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON, WI
PERMIT NO. 1369

If addressee unknown, please route to
appropriate person:

- ☐ Environmental Manager,
- ☐ Health & Safety Manager,
- ☐ Plant Manager, or
- ☐ Owner/President

Madison Receives Clean School Bus USA Grant from EPA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), through its 2005 Clean School Bus USA assistance agreements, is awarding \$7.5 million to 35 school districts around the nation. These grants fund projects to replace older diesel school buses with new, less polluting models and retrofit others with emissions control technology and cleaner fuels. The program's goals are to lower the air pollution created by diesel school buses and to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust.

The Madison Metropolitan School District has been awarded \$291,470 from this program—the only grant awarded in Wisconsin. The MMSD has formed a partnership with 14 school districts and five private bus companies in southern and central Wisconsin, along with the Clean Air Coalition, and will install pollution control mufflers in 300 school buses

Through the grant, 253 diesel-fueled buses will be retrofitted with diesel oxidation catalysts (DOCs), that break down pollutants in exhaust into less harmful components. A DOC can reduce hydrocarbon

emissions by 50% and carbon monoxide emissions by 40 percent.

Another 47 buses will be retrofitted with closed crankcase ventilation (CCV) systems that capture oil that would otherwise be released from the engine. Hydrocarbons and NOx go back into the intake system for re-combustion, and particulate matter gets filtered out of the crankcase vapors. CCV systems reduce particulate emissions and, by keeping engine compartments and components cleaner, also improve vehicle reliability.

The 14 school districts participating in this project have a combined enrollment of more than 56,700 students. Of these, 20,900 students (37%) ride bus fleets targeted for improvement through this grant.

For more information about the Clean School Bus USA program, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/index.htm>. For additional information about MMSD's project, see <http://www.madison.k12.wi.us/cso/news/05-06/epagrant.htm>. ❖